

**ABSTRACT**

A number of data symbols are driven into a transmission line while simultaneously driving the data symbols into another node. A difference between a signal level from the transmission line and a signal level from the other node while driving the symbols is determined. The difference is applied to a signal input of a variable offset comparator. One of a number of binary values (offset codes) are applied to an offset control input of the comparator, to adjust an implied, variable reference level of the comparator, prior to the comparator performing a comparison between the input signal and the implied reference level.

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